

Dear Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Planning and Development,

My name is Ken Bernhard, I am a Connecticut resident and I strongly urge you to support HB 5170
An Act Concerning the Tethering and Sheltering of Dogs

- This legislation is long overdue in Connecticut. Connecticut suffers from extremely harsh winters – this year we had record breaking cold – and sweltering summers. Many states around us already have these protections in place for animals.
- The bill is straightforward, humane and fair. It seeks to protect dogs during extreme weather conditions *before* they show visible signs of suffering and distress when it's evident the weather poses a threat to the dog's welfare.
- Significantly, it gives Animal Control Officers clear direction and the necessary tools to help before the situation becomes life-threatening.
- The bill passed the House overwhelmingly in 2018; now we need to finish what was begun six years ago.

Ken Bernhard

11 Woods Grove Rd, Westport, CT 06880